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GREAT AND GRACIOUS.

Four Prominent Statesmen and Their Characteristics. Lamar, Randall, Bingham and Cannon—The Lazy Loafers of the House. Special Correspondence of the BEE. WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19.—Metaphorically speaking, the house seems to be fairly standing on its head now trying to rush through the appropriation bills. If congress should be in session 365 days in the year, taking Sundays to pray over the sins of the other six days, the most important legislation would be crowded into the last few days. To some an extra session of congress would be a God send; to others a bitter pill. I think the majority prefer no extra session and will put on high pressure. It will be a good deal as Randall says about it, though, as he is most decidedly an advance guard of the house, and a candidate for speakership of the Forty-ninth congress. It isn't easy to tell just what that man's plans are at all times. Yet he can be counted upon for keeping an eye upon his own best interests while serving faithfully the democratic party. If he gets the speakership will depend in a great measure upon who is put into the cabinet, and if the "solid south" gets the lion's share, and if that way now, Sam Randall will have a clean sweep.

HE IS AFFLICTED WITH THE GOUT just at present—a disease that somewhat interferes with the calm, mirror-like surface of a man's temper. Yesterday he was so helpless that it was necessary to carry him to his carriage, and couldn't charmon the gentlemen members that went to Philadelphia last night to attend the "American club" reception. However, Gen. Bingham had them in charge and I think they were well protected and all class of innocents away from home members of congress need the most careful attention. Gen. Bingham, like Mr. Randall, represents the pious Quaker element of Philadelphia, and is especially renowned for his "allent devotions" to the cause of humanity. He has a handsome residence in Philadelphia and lives like a prince—not the prince of Wales, for he is a widower, and the object of her eyes from the galleries. He carries himself well, and is not given to much speech making, thank heaven. I always feel devoted toward the members of the house who are intelligent enough

when they haven't anything to say. Gen. Bingham is that member. He is rather distinguished looking, being very bald headed and wearing glasses and altogether a man of perfect bearing in dress and appearance. Not a very tall man or a very large man in physique, but good deal of a man in most things, and is one of Blaine's devoted admirers, or was during the centennial year, as I happened to be a visitor across the street when Mr. Blaine was so elaborately entertained at Gen. Bingham's home. Men have been known to change their minds after being elected to congress and learning the ropes, to speak, and possibly Gen. Bingham may not be so in love with the ex-senator as he was. As Mr. Blaine is now only spoken of socially, we cannot judge how it is with Gen. Bingham out of his footing, as he is not in society this winter, his wife having died but a few months ago. However, the code for mourning is very brief in Washington, haven't time and political life is too fleeting.

ONE OF THE BUSIEST MEN, and makes the least fuss about it, is Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, who is a leading republican member of the appropriation committee. He seems to have the greatest facility for gliding about, darting here and there, always on hand to vote, and drawing in the lazy pokes who rather lounge and tell good (?) jokes in the cloak rooms, or lying sprawled out on the sofas in the rear of the house. I do feel that some of these loungers are indeed disgusting in the way they flop around on the lounges, smoking cigars, and talking and laughing loud enough for the galleries to hear. At the instance of Mr. Cannon (I am now speaking the republican side of the house), off they roll with a dull thud, like so many saw logs, and in the latest possible draw out, "Mr. Speaker, or 'Y' or 'N' at the vote may require. Mr. Cannon is one of the watchdogs, tho' he isn't eternally talking at a mark, as some of the others are. When he has anything to say he says it in a forcible way, and well understood by the galleries. This is saying much for a little fellow who understands of the gibberish below. Mr. Cannon was considered the graceful, elegant man of the breed, tho' he can be so when not getting, but his manners were studied and affected and at times most rude and impolite, while Mr. Cannon is always elegant and very graceful in manner while speaking, and not being the old man that Cannon is, he enjoys society in a rational way and waltzes beautifully. He is above median height and well proportioned, light brown hair and whiskers, and a clear pink and white complexion that a woman might envy. His Prince Albert cut fits him perfectly, showing off his broad shoulders and full chest to perfection. He doesn't look to be over forty, yet I presume he is for he has been in congress ever since I can remember. You can decide that matter for yourselves by looking in the Congressional Record, which gives correct dates about age of course, as each member writes his own history over two years.

THE TRICK OF DODGING A CARD is not one of Mr. Cannon's accomplishments. The lies that he tells, the pages, which deliver cards to the members, have to tell is appalling. When possible, Mr. Cannon responds at once and in the most differential way listens, then quickly and honestly responds to the persistent hanger-on who always has an axe to grind. To the ladies he is charming and attentive, and I believe has something of a reputation of being a "ladis man," and on very pretty nothing that go to fill up time, such as talking about the weather, don't you know. It delights women to have these eminent men talk to them about the weather, anything so they talk to them. Mr. Cannon has a wife and daughter with him at Willard's hotel who do society honors extensively and both very delightful ladies to meet, as they seem to be blessed with this world's goods, dress richly and handsomely. Miss Cannon is a fine-looking young lady with pleasing address and unaffected manners. She has not caught the "society giggle" so prevalent here, and is a

HURT BY AN ELECTRIC SHOCK.

A Man Who Was Made a Cripple for Life by the Subtle Fluid. Trial of His Suit for Damages Against the Company. Denver Tribune-Republican. The district court was engaged yesterday afternoon in the trial of the case of Charles Lubber vs. the Colorado Electric Light Company, which is generally known as the Electric Light case. The action was for damages for injuries caused to the plaintiff while in the service of the defendant, engaged upon work which was directed to do, but which was not within the usual scope of his employment. He is by trade a carpenter, and it was as a carpenter that he was employed by the defendant in order to remove it. After he had removed the lamp, and was in the act of uniting the ends of the several wires, so as to complete the electric circuit, and while he had hold of the wire with each hand, a current of electricity was sent through the wire. Lubber received the full force of the shock, and was thrown backward upon the sidewalk, falling upon his head. He was seriously injured and was taken up in an ambulance to his home, where he remained for several days. He testified that he did not fully recall his consciousness until the 10th of January following the injury, and that ever since then he has been subject to epileptic fits. His hearing is impaired, as is also the nerves of his left eye. In consequence of the injury he is unable to do any work, and he has to be maintained by his family. He testified that he had not fully recalled his consciousness until the 10th of January following the injury, and that ever since then he has been subject to epileptic fits. His hearing is impaired, as is also the nerves of his left eye. In consequence of the injury he is unable to do any work, and he has to be maintained by his family.

THE LATEST Gossip.

about the incoming cabinet for the interior. It is evident that no national view is taken of the "eternal fitness" of things. Senator Lamar is a great man, a learned man, a good man and a most gifted and accomplished statesman. A statesman rather than a politician, yet none have a better knowledge of the interior, or a more close student of political economy than he is. He is an earnest legislator, and at times impetuous, but this is physical. We all know that he is called, and it, the most scholarly man in the senate. His people, the Mississippians, revere him, believe in him and repose their full confidence in him, and I believe the entire south feel that Senator Lamar is the man they would select to fill the high position of secretary of state, yet without struggle against having him leave the senate. For could he fill his place there? But Senator Bayard is the one chosen for that position. From high authority I have it that Bayard will go into the cabinet as secretary of state, and Mr. Lamar will be offered the interior. If he'll accept it or not is another matter. He is looking well physically, more like the active legislator of eight years ago. For the past few years he has been in a wretched health and has taken little or no part in active debate. The death of his wife a few weeks ago was a terrible blow, and he says he has but little heart in personal honors. Mrs. Lamar was one of the most devoted wives and fond mothers it has been my pleasure to meet; a woman of rare culture and accomplishments, and in every sense a fit companion to her husband. Her society is a pleasure to all who have the honor to know her, and she is a most devoted mother to her children. Senator Bayard is more heard of in social circles. He likes a good dinner, and knows how it should be cooked. He prizes his time, and is fond of cooking terrapin, and is also fond of the theatre. Last week, while Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry were here, he was often seen at the theatre, and gave a box party, and a supper afterwards to Miss Terry, his daughters being of the party. This only shows how well England will fare when he has international affairs to attend to. While Miss Terry played the part of a charming young lady well, I saw nothing great in her, wishing to call out very marked attention from our most distinguished statesmen, but no doubt she is a beautiful dinner companion and understands the art of pleasing, and as the Prince of Wales delights to honor our beautiful women, and bestows favors upon our actresses, it is very kind and clever in Senator Bayard to show such marked attention to Miss Terry. While this distinguished supper was going on at Walker, Willie Walter Phelps, M. C. from the Jerseys, assisted by the Blaines were dining and winning Henry Irving at Willie Walter's home. So these English acts not only carried away a whole lot of money, but a whole lot of reputation, enough to furnish him with advertising for years to come.

A MARRIAGE GUARANTEE.

Two Influences have tended to maintain a high price on barbed wire, which in many parts of the country, where stone and wood are difficult to obtain, has become almost a necessity to the farmers. These influences are patents, and tariff on wire and wire rods. The farmer has been held by a close monopoly, which has been able to raise its monopoly through tariff, and which has "farmed out" at exorbitant royalties the privilege of making use of all or some of the patents on this article. Such has been the demand for barbed wire that a large number of wire mill turned to its manufacture, and, until recently, were willing to pay the royalties demanded. Now, however, the era is very different, and for a year or two a contest has been pending between the holders of the patents and those who use them. The courts have been called to pass upon the validity of the patents and every possible means of evading the payment of royalties. Naturally the Western farmers have shown the strongest interest in this question, and it looks as if they were at last to have cheap wire, for, as well as by a dispatch we print this morning, one of the important patents has expired, and is now held where it can be used at lower rates. To reduce the royalty by two-thirds would prove a great benefit to those who are selling their wheat at prices which hardly cover the cost of production. To complete the benefit the tariff on wire rods should be reduced.

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